

# HOUSE BILL 444

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By: **Delegate Cardin**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2010

Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 16, 2010

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law – Citizens Who Have Not Lived in the United States – Right to**  
3 **Vote**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that a citizen who has not lived in the United States but  
5 has a parent who is a resident of the State is a resident of the State for purposes  
6 of voter registration; prohibiting an individual from being considered a resident  
7 of the State if the individual has established a domicile outside the State;  
8 authorizing an individual to register to vote and vote only in elections for  
9 federal office in the county in the State where a parent resides if the individual  
10 meets certain requirements; and generally relating to enfranchising certain  
11 citizens who have not lived in the United States.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
13 Article – Election Law  
14 Section 3–102  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2003 Volume and 2009 Supplement)

17 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
18 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

19 **Article – Election Law**

20 3–102.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike-out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an individual may  
2 become registered to vote if the individual:

3 (1) is a citizen of the United States;

4 (2) is at least 18 years old or will be 18 years old on or before the day  
5 of the next succeeding general or special election;

6 (3) is a resident of the State as of the day the individual seeks to  
7 register; and

8 (4) registers pursuant to this title.

9 (b) An individual is not qualified to be a registered voter if the individual:

10 (1) has been convicted of a felony and is actually serving a  
11 court-ordered sentence of imprisonment, including any term of parole or probation, for  
12 the conviction;

13 (2) is under guardianship for mental disability; or

14 (3) has been convicted of buying or selling votes.

15 **(C) (1) FOR PURPOSES OF VOTER REGISTRATION UNDER**  
16 **SUBSECTION (A)(3) OF THIS SECTION, A RESIDENT OF THE STATE SHALL**  
17 **INCLUDE A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES BORN ABROAD WHO HAS NEVER**  
18 **LIVED IN THE UNITED STATES BUT WHO HAS A PARENT WHO IS A RESIDENT OF**  
19 **THE STATE.**

20 **(2) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED A RESIDENT OF**  
21 **THE STATE UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION IF THE INDIVIDUAL**  
22 **HAS ESTABLISHED A DOMICILE OUTSIDE THE STATE.**

23 **(3) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS CONSIDERED A RESIDENT OF THE**  
24 **STATE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, IS NOT REGISTERED TO VOTE IN ANOTHER**  
25 **STATE, AND IS OTHERWISE QUALIFIED MAY REGISTER TO VOTE AND VOTE ONLY**  
26 **IN ELECTIONS FOR FEDERAL OFFICE IN THE COUNTY IN THE STATE WHERE A**  
27 **PARENT RESIDES.**

28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
29 June 1, 2010.